



DATE: September 1, 2006

TO: Andrew T. Souza

FROM: Rhonda Jorn, Public Affairs Officer

FOR: Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT: CITYWIDE WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

The *Citywide Weekly Report* highlights various activities throughout the City for the week. Consistent with our mission to ensure equal access to opportunity, education, and quality of life for every man, woman and child regardless of their race, religion, age or socio-economic status, this report will work to organize our weekly achievements so that we can measure and maximize our management and performance toward reaching our goals. It is our intent that this report will help to improve communications about the programs and services provided to both the City Council and the community.

Please feel free to contact the Public Affairs Department with any questions.

UPCOMING EVENTS and PROJECTS

Parks and Recreation

Mayor's Job Fair

- The first ever Mayor's Job Fair Mixer will be held Wednesday, September 20, 2006 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Fresno Convention Center New Exhibit Hall. The mixer is being held for employer participants to get more information about the Mayor's Job Initiative, mingle and enjoy refreshments and appetizers.

Personnel

'Lunch and Learn'

- On Wednesday, September 6th, the Personnel Services Department will host the 'Lunch and Learn' entitled "Supervisor Toolkit." This "train the trainer" session features a library of video clips on various aspects of supervision plus a comprehensive guide for using those clips to draw out specific lessons on supervision.

KEY RESULT AREA: PUBLIC SAFETY

Fire

- Nineteen firefighters are participated in the fire captain promotional examine this week.
- Thirty-five firefighter trainee candidates were interviewed this week.
- From August 25 until August 31, fire crews responded to 517 incidents.

Police

Stamping Out Graffiti

- Graffiti vandalism is a blight that negatively impacts the quality of life for many of our neighborhoods and its residents. It must be addressed with a multi-dimensional approach which includes education, abatement, investigation, prosecution and restitution. This requires the combined efforts of city services, local businesses, faith-based and non-profit organizations and most importantly, members of the community.

During the week of August 21st:

- There were 5 felony and 8 misdemeanor graffiti arrests. All 13 of the offenders were juveniles.
- Volunteers are assisting detectives in contacting victims of graffiti vandalism, reviewing reports and photographing the scenes of vandalism locations.
- City crews with some assistance by faith based volunteer groups removed approximately 49,000 square feet of graffiti this week, almost all of which was painted over in 24 hours or less of it being reported. There were just over a thousand locations where graffiti was reported or observed by field crews for removal.
- Two new graffiti abatement trucks have been received by the city and are being prepped to provide even faster graffiti removal service.
- Recent improvements in the graffiti reporting process will lead to even faster clean up and paint over responses, keeping our city looking great.

KEY RESULT AREA: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Public Utilities

Sewer Workers Rewarded for Safety, Job Performance

- *Business Street* ran a news story and photo about the celebration by the Sewer Division for working 1000 + days without a lost time injury. Mayor Alan Autry, who took part in the celebration at Roeding Park in Fresno today, learned that this achievement resulted in the reduction of their worker's compensation by \$44,700 for this fiscal year and also dropped the outstanding worker's compensation liability by \$120,000 as of this past July 1st. Sewer employees received a \$100

stipend check from the City for each employee for their efforts, in addition to shirts and Fresno Grizzlies baseball tickets, which were given by Mayor Autry.

Personnel

Class and Comp Study

- This week the Personnel Services Department facilitated the Compensation and Classification Study Occupational Panels. Over 200 employees participated in 22 panels to assist in developing a model job classification system for the City. Members of the panels worked with consultants from Fox Lawson & Associates on recommendations to aid in drafting the proposed classification schematic and for preparation of proposed new position specifications.

Drop-in Dialogues

- On August 17, Clark Connelly conducted two drop-in dialogs on Workers' Compensation. They were attended by approximately 25 employees with considerable discussion.

Family Medical Leave Act

- On August 18, PSD, the City Attorney's office, and DPU representatives did a joint forum presentation on the Family Medical Leave Act in Council chambers. We filled half of the downstairs chamber and the presentation was very well received.

KEY RESULT AREA: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

PUBLIC UTILITIES

Wastewater Employee Asked to Assist State Water Resources Board

- Rosa Lau-Staggs from Wastewater has been asked by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to sit on the Central Valley Salinity Policy Committee. This committee was established by the SWRCB to develop region wide policy for addressing salinity related water quality issues.

KEY RESULT AREA: ONE FRESNO

GENERAL SERVICES

Alternative Energy Source During Peak Demand

- This week Fleet Management personnel met with staff from PG&E to discuss a proposal that would allow standby generators to be turned on during Stage 2 power emergencies to reduce peak load demand on the power grid. PG&E has major concerns that next summer California could see rolling blackouts based on current supply and demand forecasts. Potentially, the City could benefit from this program specifically with water well generators and at the Waste Water Treatment Plant and other generator sites that the City operates.

KEY RESULT AREA: EDUCATION

Public Utilities

Fresno City College Professors tour Wastewater Treatment Plant

- The Wastewater Treatment Plant recently provided a tour of retired professors from Fresno City College.

KEY RESULT AREA: CUSTOMER SERVICE

General Services

All In a Weeks Work

- This week Central Printing designed and produced 400 recruitment brochures for the "Director of Public Works" recruitment, 1,000 letterheads and envelopes for the Mayor's Office, and produced 100 full color "Training Guides for Administering the New City of Fresno Website".

Transportation/FAX

FAX kicks-off the Fresno State Football Shuttle service with its

All-New 2006 CNG New Flyer Buses!

- The Department will be utilizing 12 new 2006 CNG New Flyer buses for the Fresno State Bulldog football shuttle service beginning on Friday, September 1, 2006, until the end of the football season. The new style of CNG buses feature a state-of-the art look and design. We are the first transit property in State of California to purchase the new style of CNG buses which are aesthetically pleasing.

Planning and Development

Housing and Community Development Division

Green Building Underway

- The City's first home under its Green Building Demonstration Project is underway with construction initiated this week. The project consists of the construction of "Green" single family affordable homes on scattered infill sites throughout the City. The homes will be constructed with alternative building materials resulting in extreme energy efficiency and hence low utility bills for the home owners. The project has experienced numerous delays, however, site grading for the first home on Iowa St. in southeast Fresno is now underway.

Parks and Recreation

Senior Birthday Party

- The Senior Program celebrated August Birthdays at Ted C. Wills Community Center on Friday with over 75 seniors attending the celebration, from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. The seniors danced for the entire four hours to CD recorded music. As a result the seniors want to meet every Friday for "Dancercise".

Public Utilities

Community Sanitation Participates in Tent City Clean Up

- On August 26th Crews from Community Sanitation joined forces with several other City Departments for a blitz campaign to clean up "Tent City", Monterey Street and Golden State Boulevard. Management, employees of Litter Control, Operation Clean Up, and Hope Now for Youth canvassed the areas removing

trash, debris, weeds, human waste, various homeless discards and paraphernalia left behind by the homeless folks as they moved their belongings in shopping carts away from the areas. These areas have been put on a regular maintenance schedule to help keep them safe and clean.

Water Division Qualifies for Safe Drinking Water Loan

- Water Division has been deemed eligible for a \$1,500,180 loan from the California Department of Health Services' Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund for the construction of permanent chlorination facilities at 24 City wells. The funding agreement will provide a 20-year loan at an interest rate of 2.2923%. This funding application has been in process since 2001.

Airports

Time for a Cup of Joe

- The new Starbucks coffee shop in the airport terminal building will officially open for business on Tuesday, September 5 at 4:30 am. The addition of Starbucks enhances meeting airport customer service expectations for superior concessions. Seventeen new full time employees were hired to staff the facility. These are new jobs that did not exist before. Notably, the concessionaire advertised for positions only one weekend and received 200 applications. The Starbucks kiosk is located near the main terminal lobby entrance, next to the fountain with tentative operation hours of 4:30 am - 9:00 pm Monday-Tuesday and 4:30 am - Midnight Wednesday-Sunday (to serve Mexicana flights).

FYI Makes the Front Page

- On August 29, Fresno Yosemite International Airport debuted on the front page of Aviation Week, a national business publication on airport management. The article cites the Airport's upcoming modernization projects designed to meet capacity needs and prepare the facility for 20-year growth. Highlights from the article include the baggage-claim area renovation, the security checkpoint expansion, and the national park-themed terminal lobby renovation and expansion. The well-read publication presented excellent national coverage on Fresno Yosemite.

Public Works

E Street Off ramp

- Public Works Traffic Engineering completed the closure of the Northbound Golden State/E Street off-ramp by installing over 700 feet of K-rail and coordinating with Caltrans to have all ramp signage removed. Jake Caine's Street Maintenance signing and striping crews installed the proper signage and Randy Schrey from Traffic Engineering implemented the traffic control plan.

S.A.F.E. Grant

- Great job to Jake Caine and the Street Maintenance sign and striping crews for completing the installation of seatbelt signs prior to the conclusion of the S.A.F.E. Grant funding! Crews installed 29 seatbelt signs to assist Fresno Police Department as part of the S.A.F.E. Grant. Mark Johnson from Traffic Engineering worked closely with the Police Department to identify proper sign locations and implement the sign plan.

Working together

- Public Works Street Maintenance crewmember Mike Gallegos responded to an Emergency Road Closure request by Fresno State Police Department and Clovis Police Department after a Clovis Police Officer was shot on Chestnut Avenue. Mike helped them close Cedar Avenue for a crime scene investigation and command center for the SWAT team. His communication in route to the scene and follow up with City of Fresno Traffic Engineering and the Police Department was exemplary to make sure everything that needed to be done was taken care of before he left the scene. Traffic Engineering and Street Maintenance call center worked with the Public Affairs Office and both Police Departments to announce the road closure to affected departments such as FAX Transportation that needed to reroute their buses.

Construction Updates

- Construction began on First Avenue/Shaw Avenue to install dual northbound and southbound left-turn lanes.
- American Paving was awarded a contract for widening Herndon Avenue between Cedar Avenue and Willow Avenue for approximately 2.4 million dollars. Expected start date in October 2006.
- Foster and Sons was awarded the contract to complete the improvements on Herndon Avenue between Marks Avenue and West Avenue. Construction is to begin on September 5, 2006 with the expected completion in the middle of November.
- Street Maintenance will be repairing and overlaying sections of Clovis Avenue between McKinley Avenue and Shields Avenue in the number two lanes (closest to the sidewalk).

Free Parking!

- The Parking Services Division received unanimous approval of the "Fresno Free" municipal code revision on 8/22/2006. The amendment eliminates the "In Season" and "Off Season" dates for parking meter enforcement and makes parking meters, lots and garages free to the public after 6pm during weekdays and free on weekends and holidays year round. The only exception is that garages will charge until 10pm and meters will be enforced until 10pm around Grizzlies Stadium and the Convention Center Complex on event dates only. Del Estabrooke, Parking Manager, has committed to install more 4 hour meters in these areas to accommodate longer-running events and to post signs in designated areas to ensure the public is aware of when meters are enforced. The change takes effect on September 22, 2006.

Shepherd Ave. Trail

- Jon Ruiz and Bryan Jones along with representatives from the Community Development and Planning Department and Parks and Recreation Department met with concerned neighbors regarding the maintenance of a trail easement on Shepherd Avenue that is adjacent to their homes. Jon Ruiz presented a potential solution that was received well by the neighborhood. Public Works received a warm welcome from the residents for meeting with them at their evening meeting and working with them towards a mutually beneficial agreement for both the City and the residents.

Street Impact Fees

- Public Works staff Mike Kirn, Scott Mozier, and Bryan Jones met with stakeholders from Commercial, Industrial, Residential, and Office building industries to discuss the proposed Street Impact Fees and discuss their concerns for economic impacts to the development community. This was the second of three scheduled meetings.

Signal Synchronization

- Dave Row and the Signal Maintenance crews are currently maintaining 611 signals in the Cities of Fresno and Clovis and the County of Fresno with eight electricians. Dave along with Traffic Engineering has been training his staff for the new controllers that have been installed as part of the Signal Coordination projects to improve travel time and air quality emissions.

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Fresno Police Department reminds everyone not to drink and drive.